

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-84 are presented below.

Claims 1-40 (Canceled).

Claim 41 (Original): An insert for a deposition shield in a plasma processing system comprising:

a plug configured to fit into an opening in said deposition shield, said plug comprises a frontal surface and a perimeter surface;

a flange coupled to said plug and configured to couple said insert to at least one of the deposition shield and a chamber wall of the plasma processing system, said flange comprising a first surface, a second surface, and an edge surface, wherein a portion of said first surface comprises a mating surface; and

a protective barrier coupled to a plurality of exposed surfaces of said insert, wherein the plurality of exposed surfaces comprise said frontal surface of said plug, said perimeter surface of said plug, and said first surface of said flange excluding said mating surface.

Claim 42 (Original): The insert as recited in claim 41, wherein said insert comprises a plurality of fastening receptors coupled to said first surface of said flange and said second surface of said flange and configured to receive fastening devices in order to couple said insert to the at least one of the deposition shield and the chamber wall.

Claim 43 (Original): The insert as recited in claim 42, wherein each of said plurality of fastening receptors comprises an entrant region, an entrant cavity, an exit through-hole, an interior fastener surface, and a recessed fastener surface.

Claim 44 (Original): The insert as recited in claim 41, wherein said plurality of exposed surfaces further comprises said mating surface.

Claim 45 (Original): The insert as recited in claim 41, wherein said insert comprises a metal.

Claim 46 (Original): The insert as recited in claim 45, wherein said metal comprises aluminum.

Claim 47 (Original): The insert as recited in claim 41, wherein said insert comprises a rectangular shape.

Claim 48 (Original): The insert as recited in claim 41, wherein said protective barrier comprises Al_2O_3 .

Claim 49 (Original): The insert as recited in claim 41, wherein said protective barrier comprises a mixture of Al_2O_3 and Y_2O_3 .

Claim 50 (Original): The insert as recited in claim 41, wherein said protective barrier comprises a compound containing at least one of a III-column element and a Lanthanoid element.

Claim 51 (Original): The insert as recited in claim 50, wherein said III-column element comprises at least one of Yttrium, Scandium, and Lanthanum.

Claim 52 (Original): The insert as recited in claim 50, wherein said Lanthanoid element comprises at least one of Cerium, Dysprosium, and Europium.

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Preliminary Amendment

Claim 53 (Original): The insert as recited in claim 41, wherein said protective barrier comprises at least one of Yttria (Y_2O_3), Sc_2O_3 , Sc_2F_3 , YF_3 , La_2O_3 , CeO_2 , Eu_2O_3 , and DyO_3 .

Claim 54 (Original): The insert as recited in claim 41, wherein said protective barrier comprises a minimum thickness and said minimum thickness is constant across at least one of said exposed surfaces.

Claim 55 (Original): The insert as recited in claim 41, wherein said protective barrier comprises a variable thickness and said variable thickness ranging from 0.5 to 500 microns.

Claim 56 (Original): The insert as recited in claim 41, wherein said plurality of exposed surfaces further comprise said interior fastener surface.

Claims 57-84 (Canceled).